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REPORT NO.

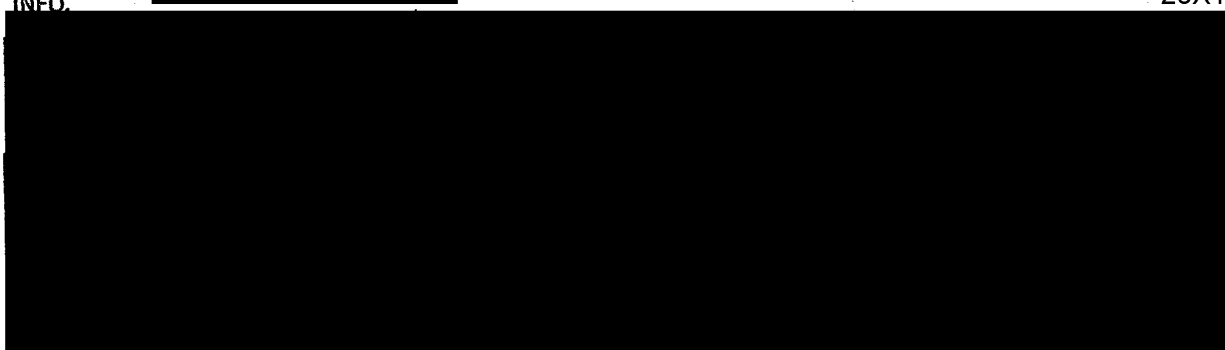
INFORMATION REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO [REDACTED]
REPORT NO. 25X1X

COUNTRY USSR/Soviet Zone of Germany
SUBJECT Soviet Army Supply System
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PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED]
DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED]

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An evaluation of available material presents the following picture:

1. The known major Soviet supply depots in the Soviet Zone of Germany, broken down according to the types of supply, are listed in Annexes 1 through 6 attached to [REDACTED] 25X1A
2. The picture of the Soviet supply routes and supply service has not been completely clarified as:
 - a. The reports on hand represent only fragmentary information on individual depots and shipments.
 - b. The almost peacetime conditions prevailing for the occupation forces bring about confusing overlapping in the procurement, distribution and means of delivery of supplies.

In general it can be said that the present logistical plans of the Soviets are based on the principle of living on the country as much as possible and of supplying from the Soviet Union only such items as cannot be procured at all or only in insufficient quantities in the Soviet Zone. This system eliminates long supply routes and relieves the burden on the Soviet economy. For this reason only limited quantities of supply flow directly from the depots run in the Soviet Union by the Ministries of the Army and Navy. These supplies are mostly shipped by rail through Poland; only minor shipments are sent by sea to the Baltic ports.

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Reference is made to para 4 of [REDACTED]

3. In order to get a clear picture of Soviet supply and logistics independent of present usages, the experiences of the last war years must be studied. These experiences are laid down in still valid service regulations, the basic principles of which will probably retain their validity in the future. These are the peculiarities of the Soviet supply system?

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a. Supply goods are delivered by higher headquarters to their subordinates. This is the reason for the comparatively limited equipment with train vehicles of the divisions and their greater dependence on the army. Rifle corps do not have train vehicles of their own; they are therefore not inserted in the flow of supply and exercise only limited control.

b. The supply of guns and small arms in addition to ammunitions of all kinds is not the responsibility of the Chief of the Supply Service but of the Artillery Commander at the headquarters of each unit.

c. In a similar way the supply of chemical, engineer, signal equipment and all the equipment needed by tank and mechanized troops is directed by the headquarters of the commanders of the various branches of service. In this respect the Chief of the Supply Service exercises a control only with regard to transportation problems.

4. A supply flow chart as assumed by this project is attached as an Annex. The chart is based on a comparison of the German information on the Soviet supply system as existing toward the end of World War II and the fragmentary post-war information. As stated above, the almost peacetime-like conditions prevailing in the Soviet Zone of Germany render the clarification of the standard supply flow difficult.

Thus, for instance, supply goods are now being shipped by rail from the army depots to the dumps of the divisions and often as far as the receiving regiments while under wartime conditions these supplies are normally delivered on trucks of the army or division concerned. Supply shipments are also, at present, largely controlled by the Soviet Control Commission while these functions, in time of war, are exercised by the Transportation Departments of the Front or Army Headquarters. Another factor which makes the clarification of the pertinent picture more difficult is the absence of any "rear areas" and the mixed quartering of troop units and the supply services.

1 Annex: Flow of Supply of the Soviet Army.

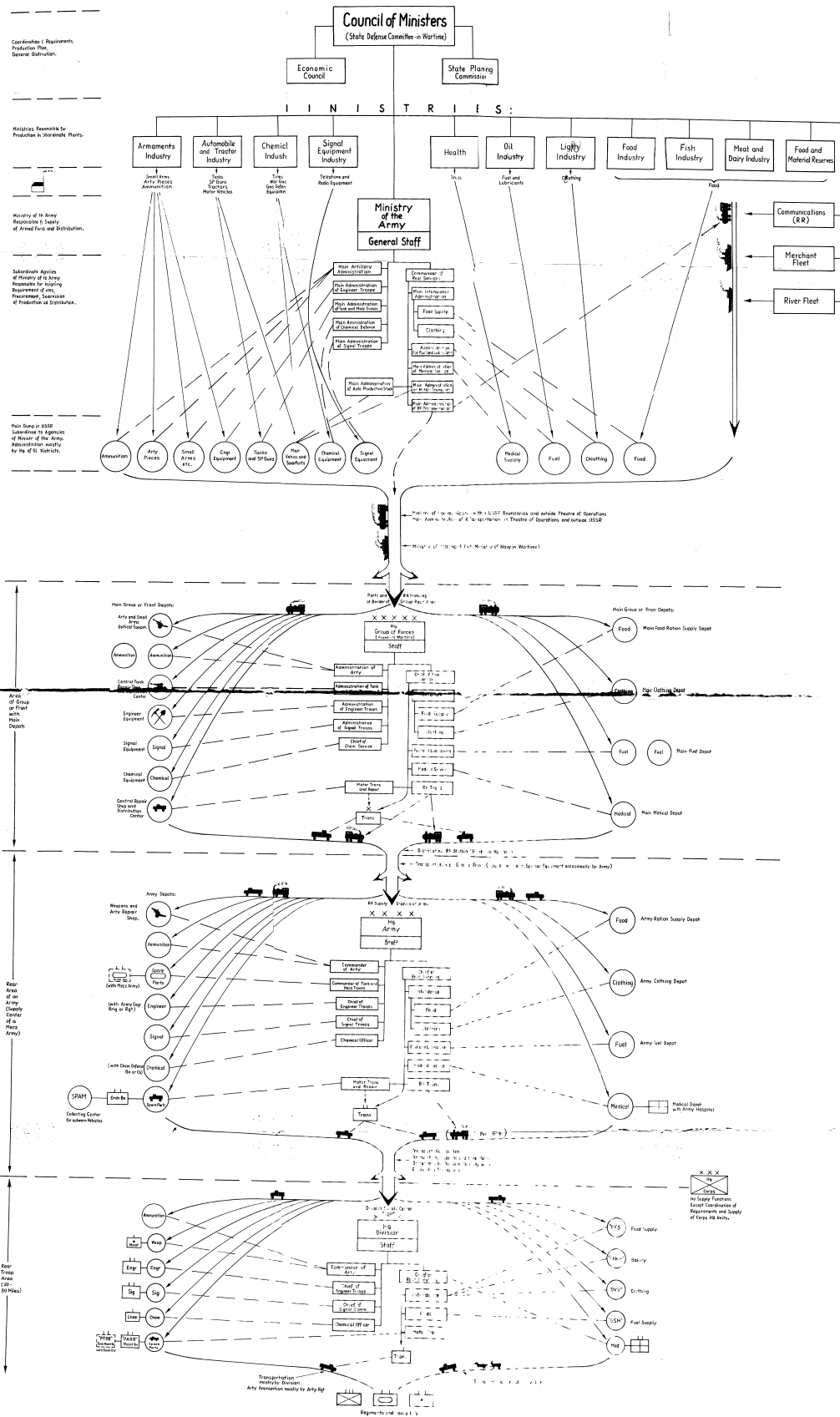
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Flow of Supply of the Soviet Army

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